

**20**  
1992-2012  
**image**  
SKYBOUND  
**92**

THE BEST SUPERHERO COMIC BOOK IN THE UNIVERSE!

# INVINCIBLE™



**ROBERT KIRKMAN**  
**RYAN OTTLEY**  
**CORY WALKER**  
**CLIFF RATHBURN**  
**JOHN RAUCH**





**image**® COMICS PRESENTS

# INVINCIBLE™

**ROBERT KIRKMAN**

**WRITER**

**RYAN OTTLEY**

**PENCILER** pages 1-7, 12-17, 20

**CORY WALKER**

**PENCILER & INKER** pages 8-11, 18-19

**CLIFF RATHBURN**

**INKER** pages 1-7, 12-17, 20

**JOHN RAUCH**

**COLORIST**

**RUS WOOTON**

**LETTERER**

**SINA GRACE**

**EDITOR**

**COVER BY RYAN OTTLEY, CORY WALKER & JOHN RAUCH**

**CREATED BY ROBERT KIRKMAN & CORY WALKER**



**IMAGE COMICS, INC.**

Robert Kirkman - chief operating officer  
Erik Larson - chief financial officer  
Todd McFarlane - president  
Marco Silvestri - chief executive officer  
Jim Valentino - vice-president  
Eric Stephenson - publisher  
Todd Martinez - sales & licensing coordinator  
Jennifer de Guzman - pr & marketing director  
Brennon Biggs - accounts manager  
Emily Miller - administrative assistant  
Jamie Perrene - marketing assistant  
Sarah McLaine - events coordinator  
Kevin Yuen - digital rights coordinator  
Tyler Shainline - production manager  
Drew Gill - art director  
Jonathan Chan - design director  
Monica Garcia - production artist  
Vincent Kucuk - production artist  
Jana Cook - production artist  
[www.imagecomics.com](http://www.imagecomics.com)



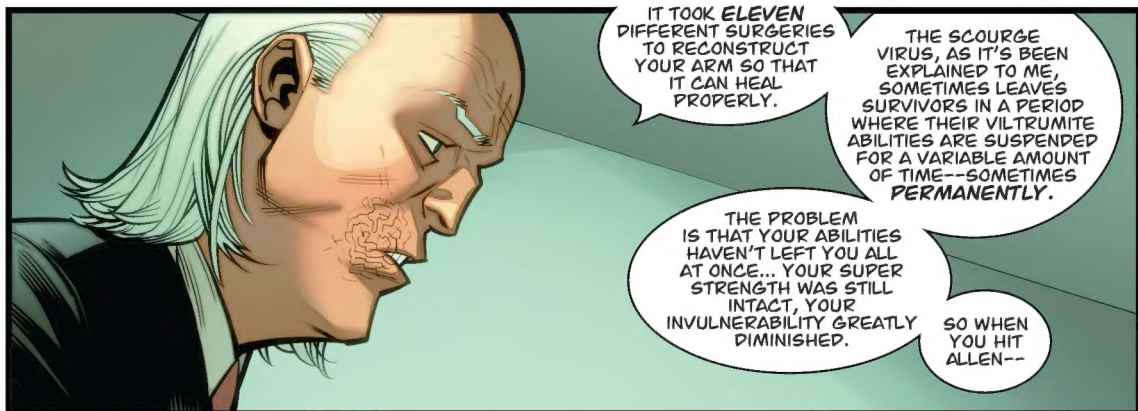
For SKYBOUND ENTERTAINMENT

Robert Kirkman - CEO  
J.J. Diddle - President  
Sina Grace - Editorial Director  
Shawn Kirkham - Director of Business Development  
Tim Daniel - Digital Content Manager  
Chad Manion - Assistant to Mr. Grace  
Sydney Pennington - Assistant to Mr. Kirkham  
Feldman Public Relations LA - Public Relations

For international rights inquiries,  
please contact: [foreign@skybound.com](mailto:foreign@skybound.com)  
[www.skybound.com](http://www.skybound.com)

INVINCIBLE #92. June 2012. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: 2134 Allston Way, 2nd Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704. Copyright © 2012 Robert Kirkman, LLC & Cory Walker. All rights reserved. INVINCIBLE™ (including all prominent characters featured herein), its logo and all character likenesses are trademarks of Robert Kirkman, LLC & Cory Walker, unless otherwise noted. Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks and copyrights of Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means (except for short excerpts for review purposes) without the express written permission of Image Comics, Inc. All names, characters, events and locales in this publication are entirely fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events or places, without satiric intent, is coincidental. Printed in the U.S.A. For information regarding the CPSIA on this printed material call: 203-595-3636 and provide reference # RICH - 438730.



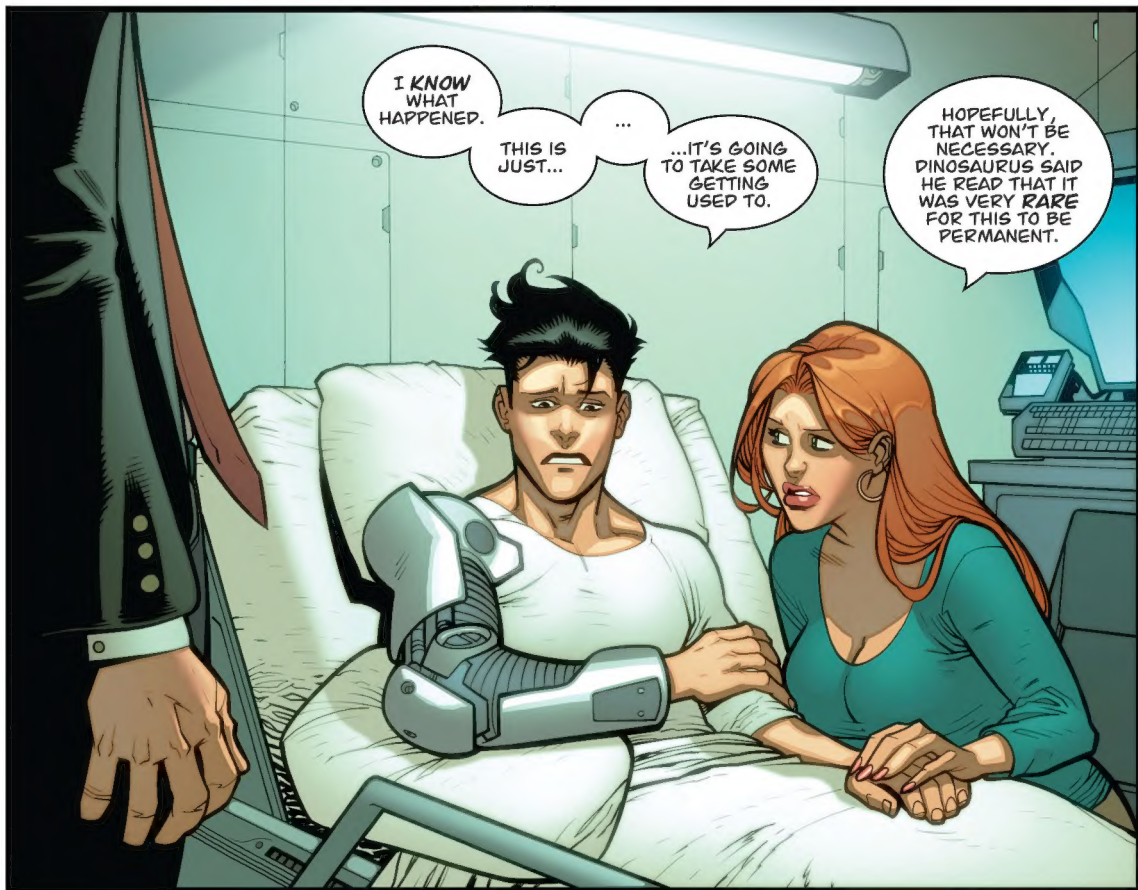


IT TOOK ELEVEN DIFFERENT SURGERIES TO RECONSTRUCT YOUR ARM SO THAT IT CAN HEAL PROPERLY.

THE SCOURGE VIRUS, AS IT'S BEEN EXPLAINED TO ME, SOMETIMES LEAVES SURVIVORS IN A PERIOD WHERE THEIR VILTRUMITE ABILITIES ARE SUSPENDED FOR A VARIABLE AMOUNT OF TIME--SOMETIMES PERMANENTLY.

THE PROBLEM IS THAT YOUR ABILITIES HAVEN'T LEFT YOU ALL AT ONCE... YOUR SUPER STRENGTH WAS STILL INTACT, YOUR INVULNERABILITY GREATLY DIMINISHED.

SO WHEN YOU HIT ALLEN--



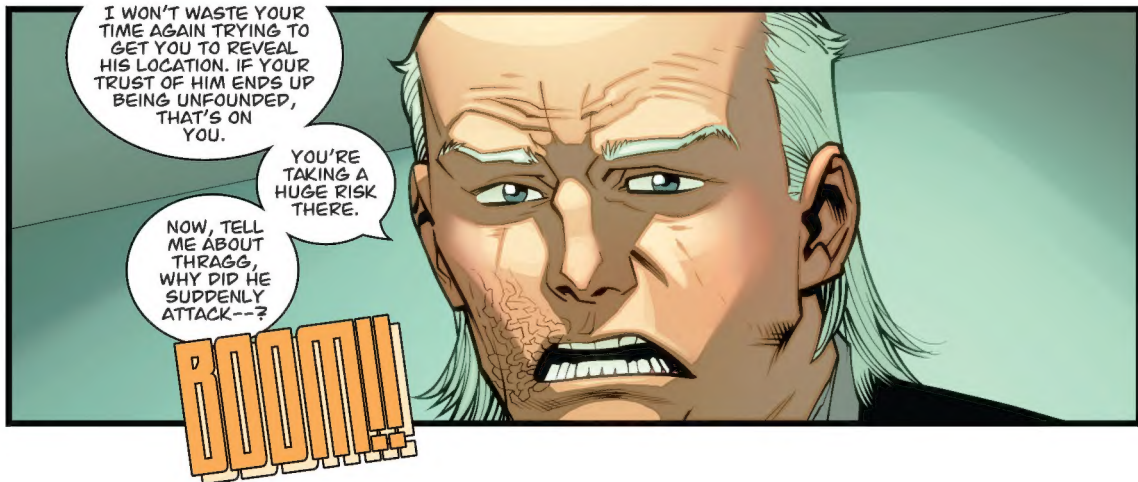
I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED.

THIS IS JUST...

...

...IT'S GOING TO TAKE SOME GETTING USED TO.

HOPEFULLY, THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY. DINOSAURUS SAID HE READ THAT IT WAS VERY RARE FOR THIS TO BE PERMANENT.



I WON'T WASTE YOUR TIME AGAIN TRYING TO GET YOU TO REVEAL HIS LOCATION. IF YOUR TRUST OF HIM ENDS UP BEING UNFOUNDED, THAT'S ON YOU.

YOU'RE TAKING A HUGE RISK THERE.

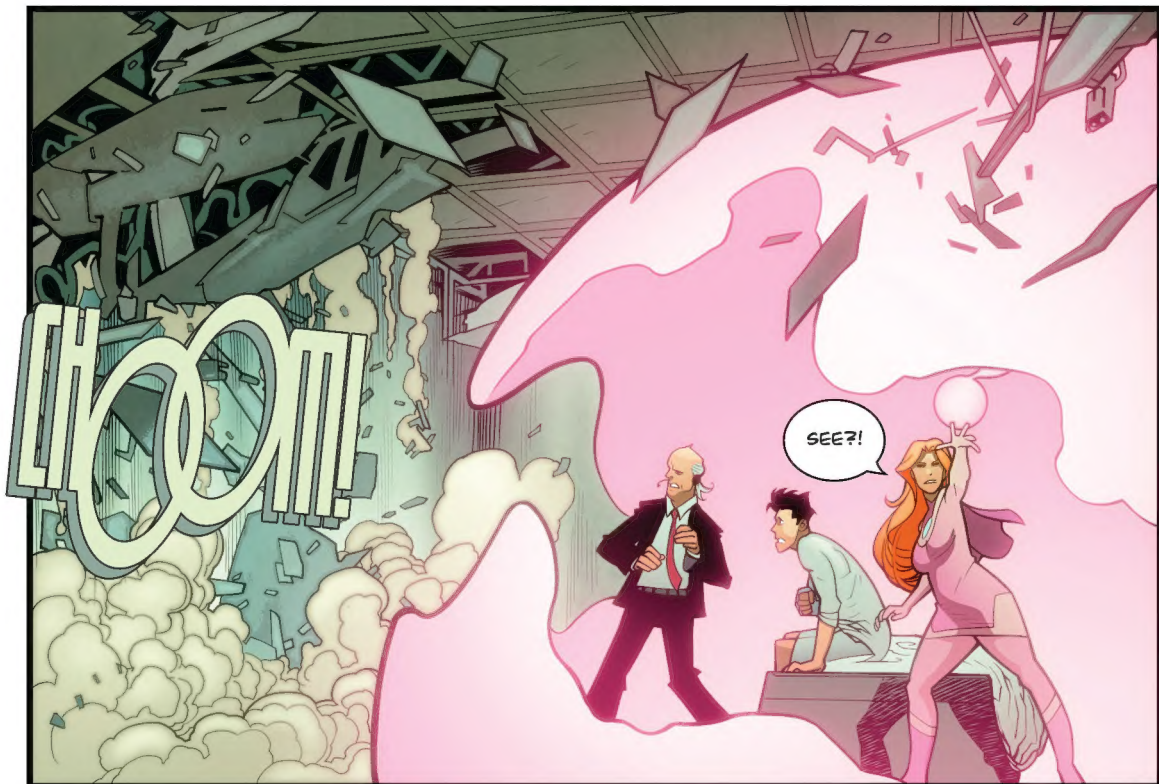
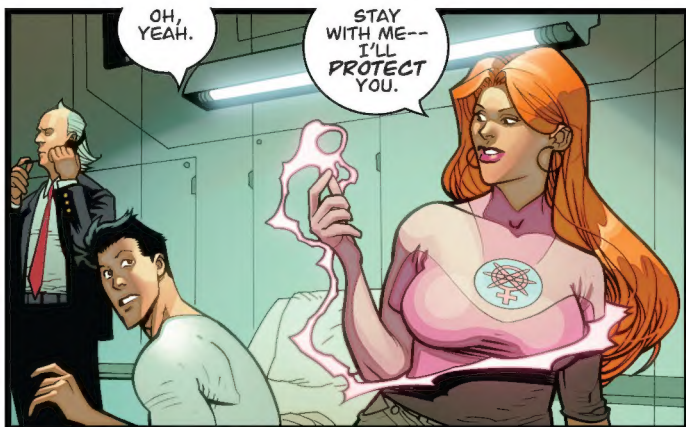
NOW, TELL ME ABOUT THRAGG, WHY DID HE SUDDENLY ATTACK--?

**BOOM!!!**

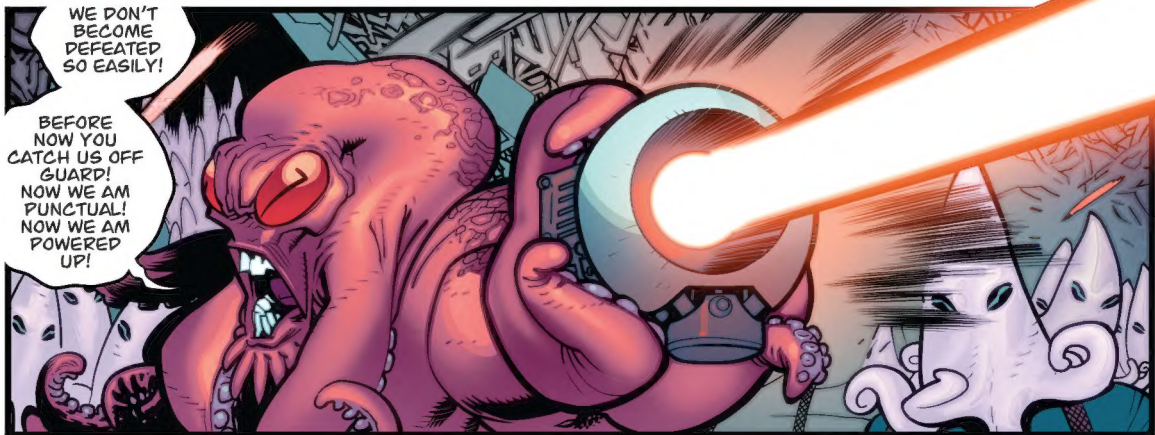




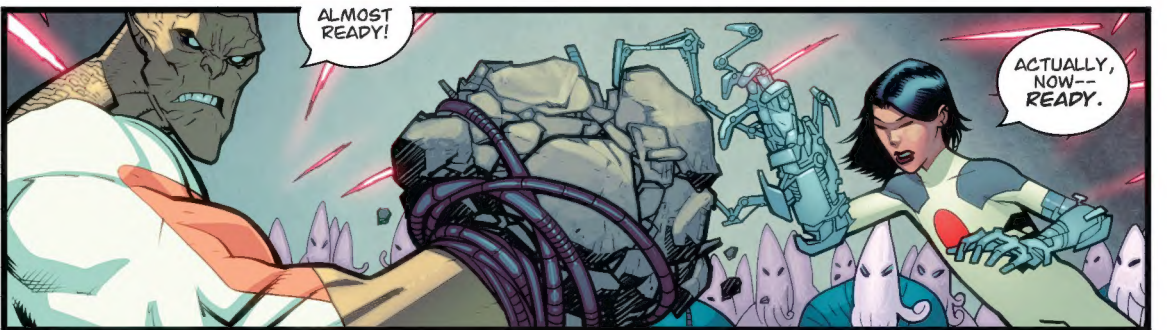














COMING  
AT YOU!

WIRAKOON!!!



CAPIES AND  
WOLF C.O.R.P.S.  
STAND DOWN.  
THE THREAT  
HAS BEEN  
NEUTRALIZED.

DON'T THINK  
WE EVEN  
NEEDED THE FULL  
GUARDIANS  
ROSTER...  
NICE.





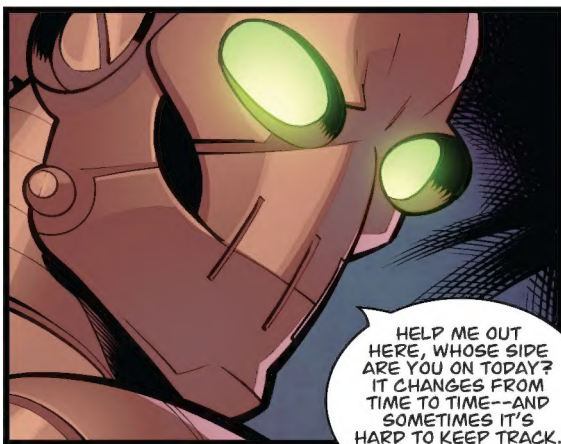
ALL TAKEN CARE OF, SIR. WE'LL HAVE ALL THE SQUIDMEN ROUNDED UP WITHIN THE HOUR.

I CAN SEE THAT. NICE JOB, BRIT.



IMPRESSIVE WORK THERE, MONSTER GIRL.

YEAH, WHERE WERE YOU? THUMBS GET SORE---OR WAS IT HARD TO CONCENTRATE OVER YOUR STUPID VIDEO GAME?



HELP ME OUT HERE, WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON TODAY? IT CHANGES FROM TIME TO TIME---AND SOMETIMES IT'S HARD TO KEEP TRACK.



DAMN IT!

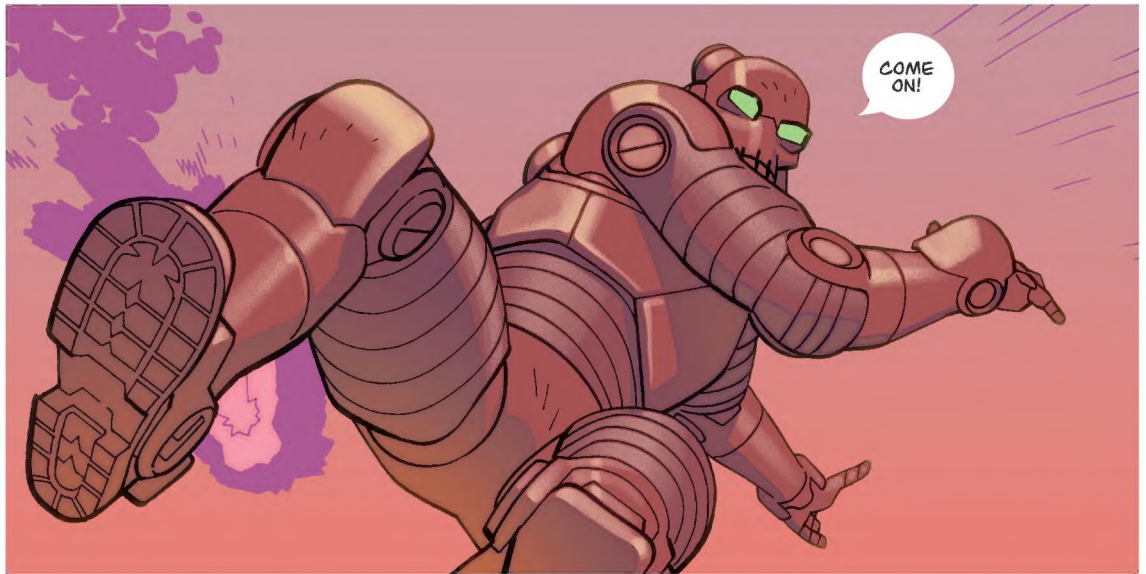
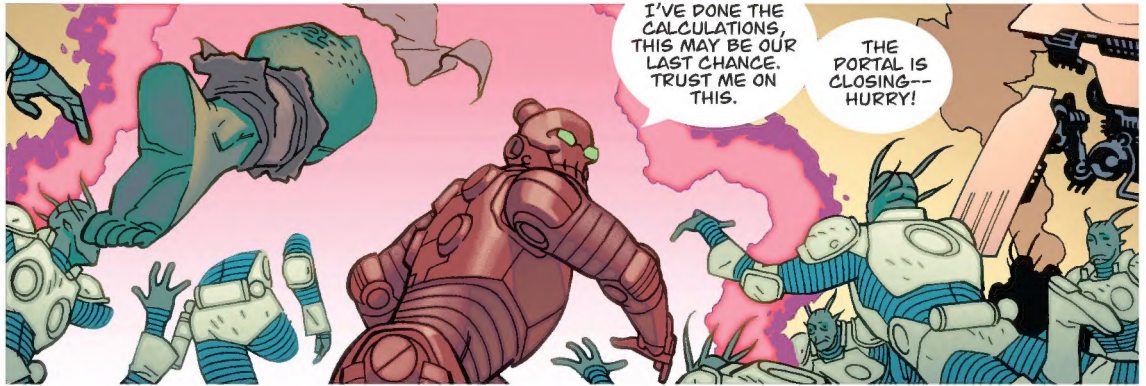
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU GUYS?!



YOU TWO USED TO BE CLOSE.

WHAT HAPPENED?









I THINK  
SO. WHY--  
UH...

OH.

YEAH.



YOU FIGURE  
THIS PART  
OUT, TOO?

NO, I THOUGHT  
THE WHOLE TEAM  
WOULD COME--THEY  
WERE ALREADY  
RETREATING... I NEVER  
CONSIDERED WHAT  
TO DO IF IT WERE  
JUST US.

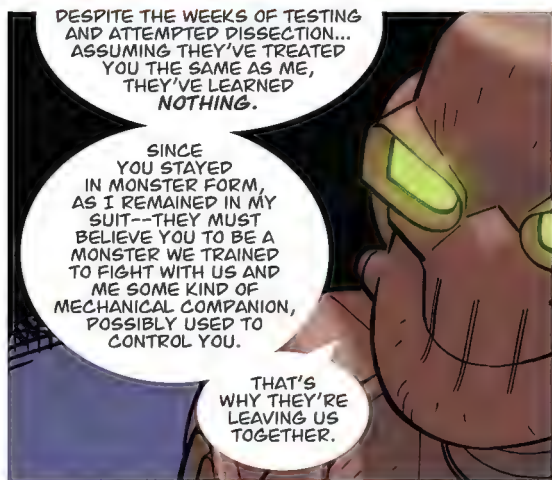
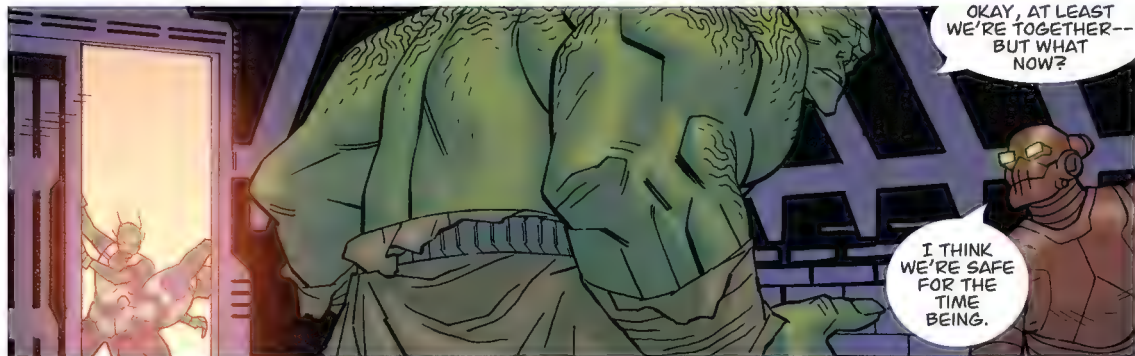
WELL?



SURRENDER.

HERE'S HOPING  
THIS IS THE  
UNIVERSAL SIGN  
FOR "WE  
GIVE UP."







IT'S BEEN DAYS SINCE YOU'VE EATEN. JUST TRY IT... IT'S NOT SO BAD.

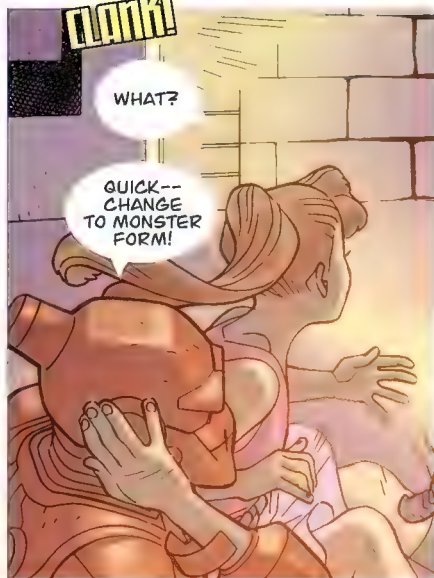
THE SMELL, OH, GOD--THEY SMELL WORSE THAN THEY LOOK!



**POW!**

WHAT?

QUICK--  
CHANGE TO MONSTER FORM!



CRAP!  
WHAT ARE THEY--



ᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ  
ᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ  
ᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ



**SLAM!**

ᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ  
ᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ  
ᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ

ᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ  
ᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ  
ᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ  
EEK!

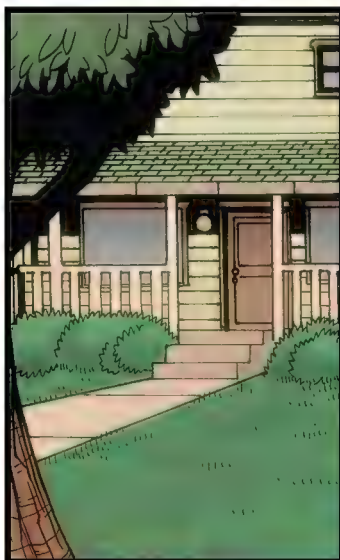
WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM?



WELL, I'M ONLY UNDERSTANDING PART OF WHAT HE'S SAYING-- BUT IT APPEARS HE EXPECTS YOU TO TRY AND EAT HIM.

I THINK THEY WERE FEEDING HIM TO YOU.

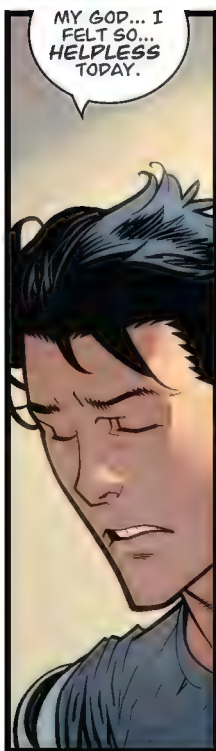




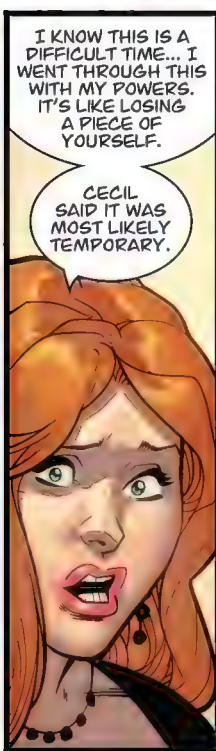
THAT TOOK FOREVER.

WELL, I CAN'T FLY AS FAST AS YOU COULD.

JUST WAIT UNTIL YOU HAVE TO DRIVE SOMEWHERE.

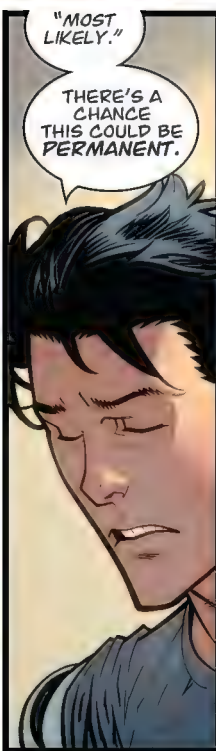


MY GOD... I FELT SO... HELPLESS TODAY.



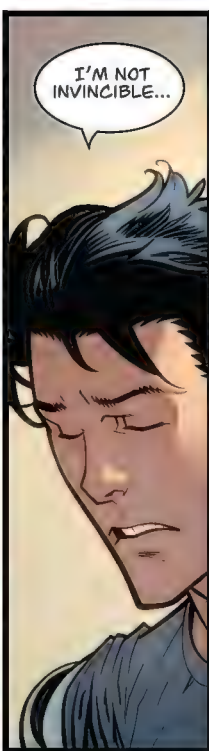
I KNOW THIS IS A DIFFICULT TIME... I WENT THROUGH THIS WITH MY POWERS. IT'S LIKE LOSING A PIECE OF YOURSELF.

CECIL SAID IT WAS MOST LIKELY TEMPORARY.

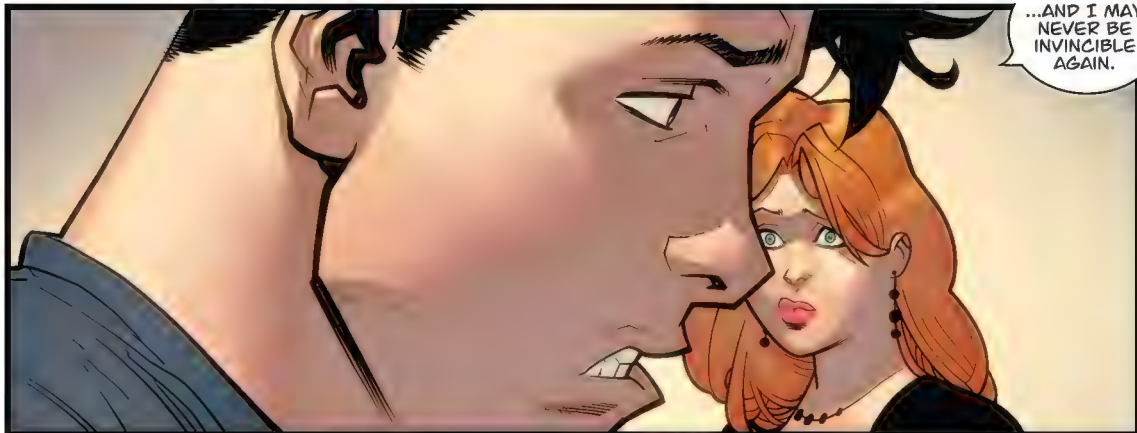


"MOST LIKELY."

THERE'S A CHANCE THIS COULD BE PERMANENT.



I'M NOT INVINCIBLE...



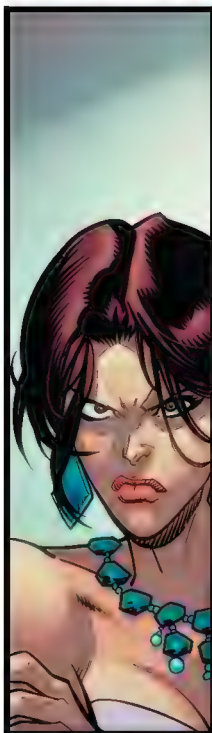
...AND I MAY NEVER BE INVINCIBLE AGAIN.



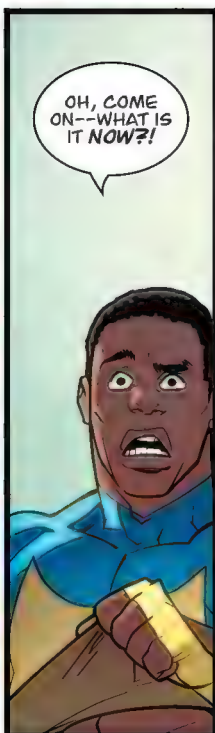


SORRY, SORRY. WE TOOK THE GUY OUT PRETTY QUICKLY, BUT WE ALL HAD TO HANG AROUND AND SUPERVISE THEM BEING TAKEN INTO CUSTODY.

Y'KNOW... TO MAKE SURE HE DIDN'T BREAK FREE AND KILL A BUNCH OF PEOPLE... IT'S IMPORTANT STUFF.

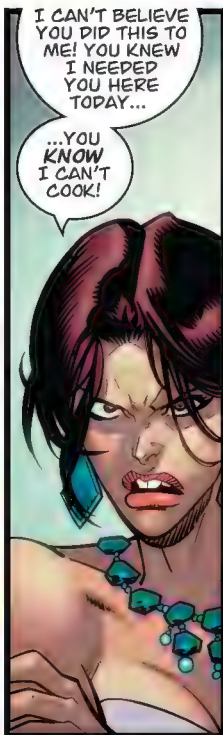


OH, COME ON--WHAT IS IT NOW?!



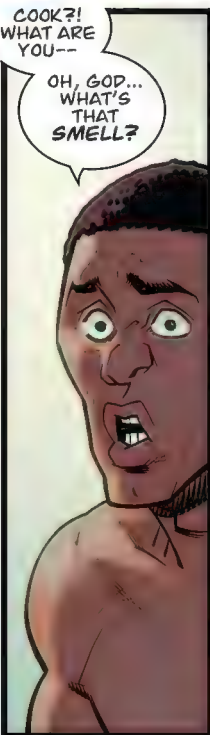
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DID THIS TO ME! YOU KNEW I NEEDED YOU HERE TODAY...

...YOU KNOW I CAN'T COOK!



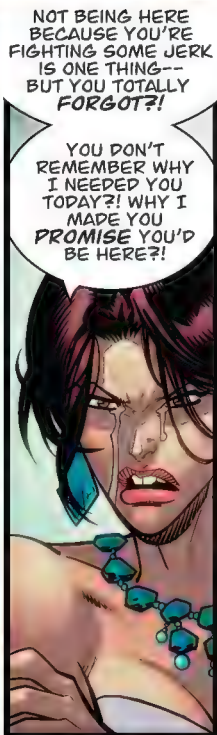
COOK?! WHAT ARE YOU--

OH, GOD... WHAT'S THAT SMELL?



NOT BEING HERE BECAUSE YOU'RE FIGHTING SOME JERK IS ONE THING-- BUT YOU TOTALLY FORGOT?!

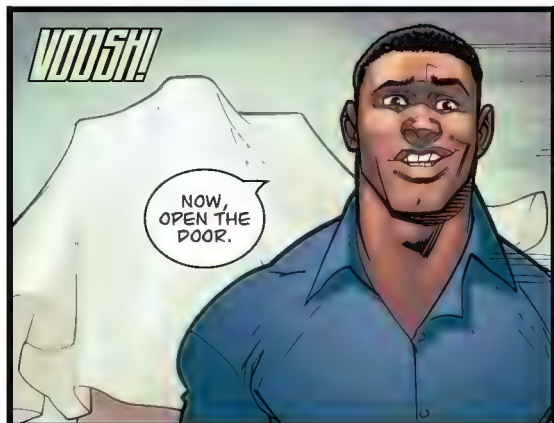
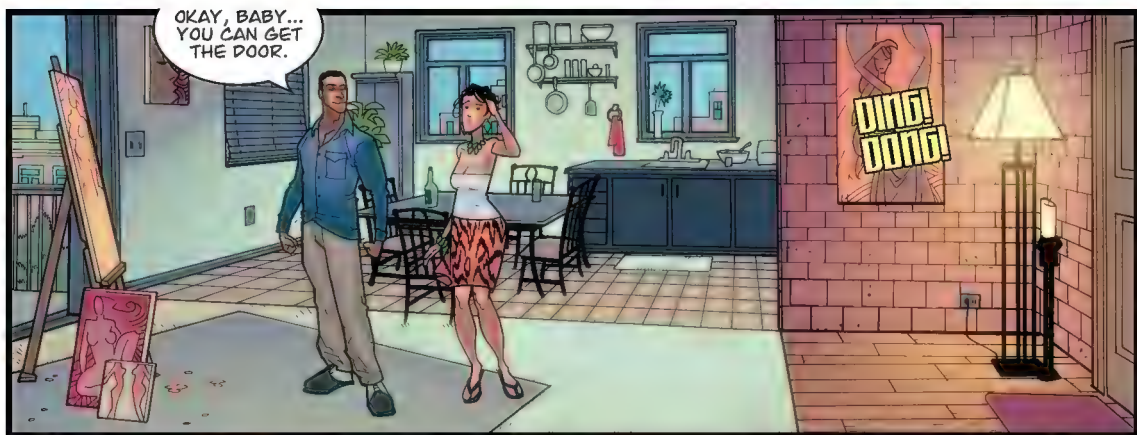
YOU DON'T REMEMBER WHY I NEEDED YOU TODAY?! WHY I MADE YOU PROMISE YOU'D BE HERE?!



YOUR PARENTS ARE COMING OVER FOR DINNER--AND THEY'RE GOING TO BE HERE ANY--

**DING!  
DONG!**

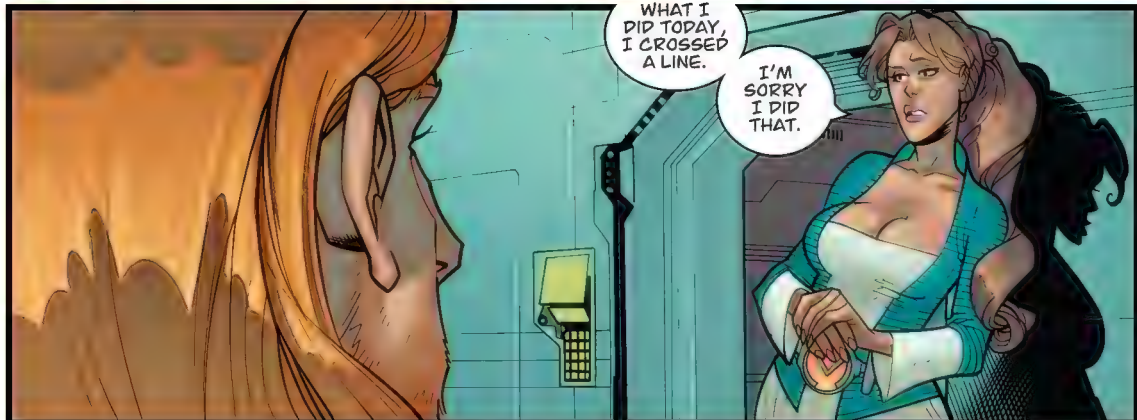
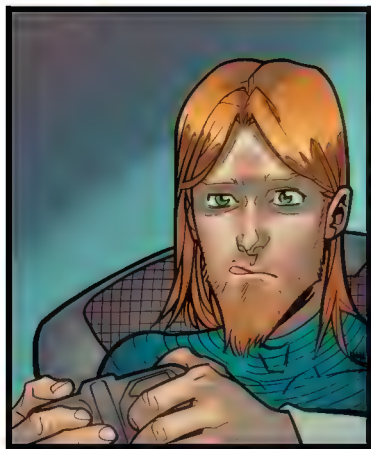




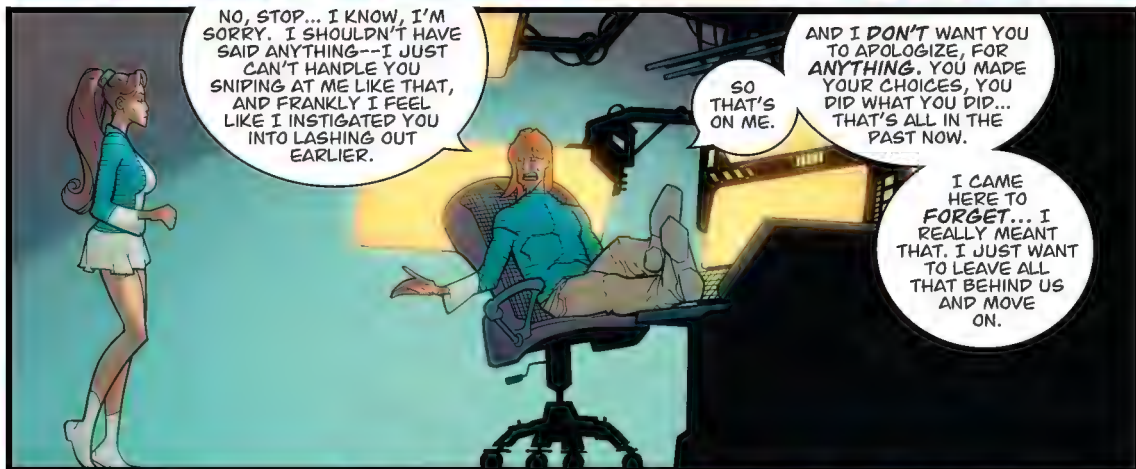












NO, STOP... I KNOW, I'M SORRY. I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID ANYTHING--I JUST CAN'T HANDLE YOU SNIPING AT ME LIKE THAT, AND FRANKLY I FEEL LIKE I INSTIGATED YOU INTO LASHING OUT EARLIER.

SO THAT'S ON ME.

AND I DON'T WANT YOU TO APOLOGIZE, FOR ANYTHING. YOU MADE YOUR CHOICES, YOU DID WHAT YOU DID... THAT'S ALL IN THE PAST NOW.

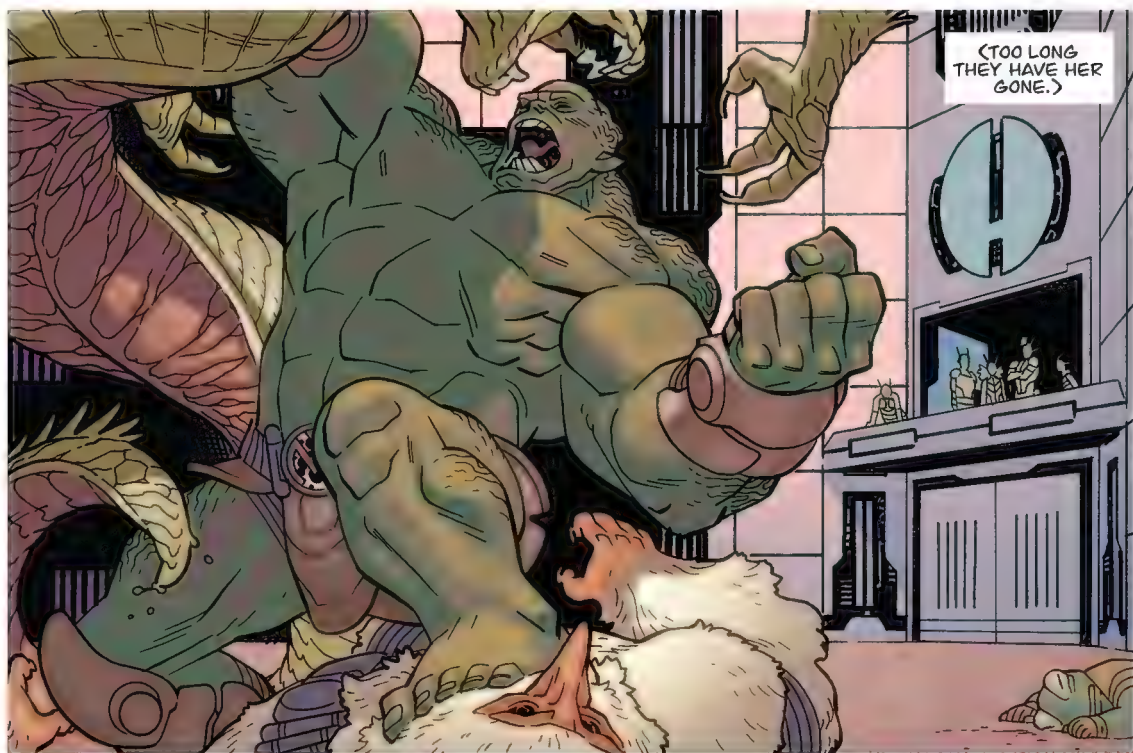
I CAME HERE TO **FORGET**... I REALLY MEANT THAT. I JUST WANT TO LEAVE ALL THAT BEHIND US AND MOVE ON.



YOU'RE SERIOUS?!

YOU REALLY EXPECT ME TO FORGET... ALL OF IT?





(TOO LONG  
THEY HAVE HER  
GONE.)



(DO NOT WORRY.  
SHE IS STRONG.  
SHE WILL RETURN.  
SHE ALWAYS  
DOES.)

(I CANNOT  
CONFORM.)

(YOU MEAN  
YOU CANNOT  
CONTROL YOUR  
EMOTIONS, I BELIEVE.  
YOUR FLAXAN TONGUE  
IS BETTER. BUT  
THERE IS STILL  
MUCH TO LEARN.)



(KNOW  
WHAT...  
DECISION...)

NO, THAT'S  
NOT RIGHT--  
UGH. I SHOULD  
KNOW THIS... I  
SHOULD SPEAK  
FLUENTLY  
BY NOW.

(PURPOSE...  
WHAT  
PURPOSE  
THEY TAKE...  
FEMALE?)

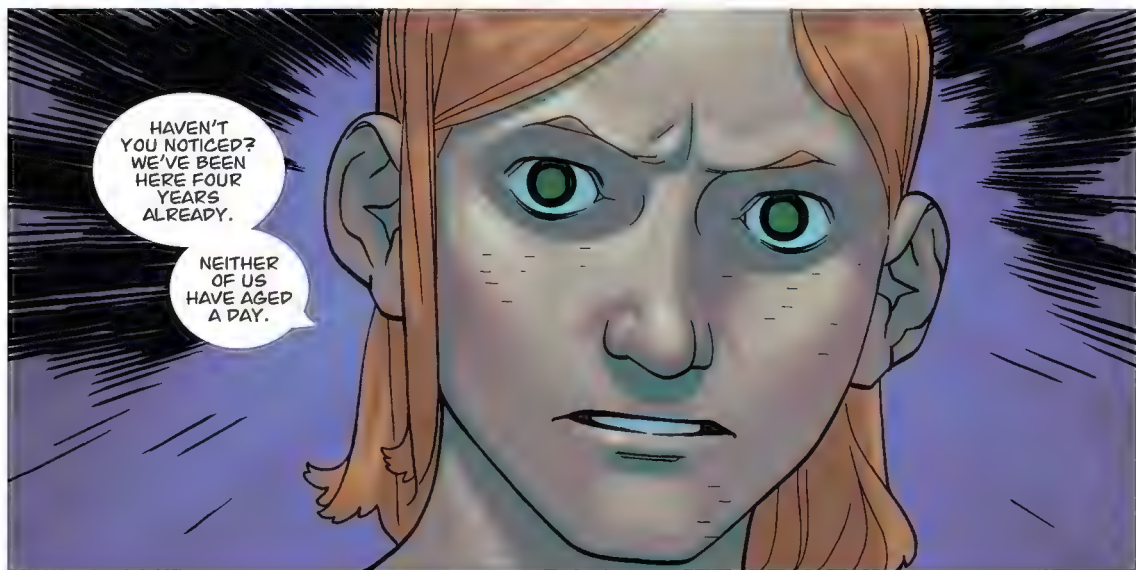
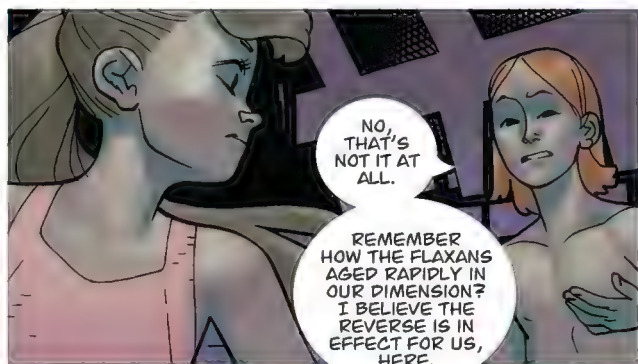


(THEY SPOKE  
OF TRIALS. I  
BELIEVE OUR  
CHANCELLOR CHOSE  
HER TO BE HIS  
CHAMPION. OTHER  
CHANCELLORS  
TRAVEL WITH THEIR  
CHAMPION FOR  
COMPETITION.)

(BATTLES  
ARE FOUGHT  
TO THE DEATH.  
BUT I AM SURE  
SHE WILL BEST  
THEM. I'VE  
NEVER SEEN  
ANYTHING  
LIKE--)

(THEY  
RETURN--  
HIDE!)









SEVEN-  
HUNDRED  
YEARS  
WE LIVED  
TOGETHER!

I KNEW YOU  
BETTER THAN  
ANYONE ON EARTH  
HAS EVER KNOWN  
ANYONE! I LOVED  
YOU MORE THAN  
ANYONE HAS  
EVER LOVED  
ANYONE!

AND YOU  
THREW IT  
AWAY---ALL  
OF IT---AFTER  
ONE SINGLE  
MISTAKE!



I'LL  
NEVER  
FORGET  
THAT!



WRITE US @

INVINCIBLE@SKYBOUND.COM

# PEN INVINCIBLE

Hiya, Invincibles!

Editor Sina Grace here, and guess what we're already talking about here at Skybound HQ? Issue 100. Big ideas, it'll be great.

Also: everybody welcome Cory Walker back to the scene. I love this guy, and he'll be around for the next few issues, illustrating what happened in the Flaxan dimension. Woo!

*I hope you guys dug this issue (this is Robert) I'm really excited about the next FIVE issues (counting this one, so the next four, I guess, but I was excited about this one, too) because we're doing something we've never done. The idea of having Cory come in and work alongside Ryan doing a subplot that's spread over five issues is pretty exciting to me. I love having Cory back for issues here and there but I hate having the time away from Ryan so this is like the best of both worlds, and I hope you guys feel the same way.*

Twists and turns aplenty this issue... let's cover your remarks about 90...

Dear Robert Kirkman (and Sina!)

I first must say how much I love Invincible. It is actually the only ongoing series that I read and look forward to monthly. The writing, illustrations, and feel are just top notch. Now for a probably not so simple question.

With Bulletproof masking for Invincible for now, I just gotta ask: is this a slight stab at what was happening with the Ultimate Spiderman series with the new Spiderman? I personally think the replacement was foolish, not because they replaced Parker with a non-white character (I could care less), but the fact that they replaced PETER PARKER, the guy that the story was all about and all the baggage that he carried with him and who he was, not just his super hero ego. Replacing him in general was the bad part of the idea, not the ethnicity he was replaced with. Don't want to get into a rant about it (lord knows I have with friends!), was just curious if it was an off hand joke or even what you think about the Spidey situation.

Again, LOVE your work and I wish only the best for you, your family, and the staff.

Respectfully,  
Peter S.

Robert can answer this...

*I'd like to state for the record that this storyline was planned far in advance. Well in advance of the Ultimate Spider-Man thing being announced. In fact, we actually announced our new Invincible a few months before the Spider-Man thing was announced last year. It's really just one of those strange coincidences. I think Brian Bendis and Sara Pichelli are doing a great job in that book and we're doing something vastly different with our story.*

Robert and Sina,

I kinda found this issue exciting! Trying something new, eh? I really felt for Dinosaurus when he was getting it handed to him;

he's not really...gone is he? And if Dinosaurus can come so far from being a former minor Villain, then just imagine what The Walking Dread has in his future. Btw, I read 5 Image comics today, all good--yours was the best. And to think, all this from a guy who's doing it on his own!

Andrew Shaw

That was such a back-handed compliment, Andrew Shaw.

*I don't even think I follow it... classic Andrew Shaw!*

Hey Rob,

I gotta say hated Dinosaurus until this issue. I hated that he blew up Las Vegas (and all those strippers and fun places to visit). When I saw Dinosaurus attack Thragg and save Mark's life, he became my favorite character. Awesome!

Quick question regarding his dialogue. Does he have a normal voice like a normal person or does it sound more like a beastly voice or something? That kinda stuff irks me when I don't know how to hear his voice in my thoughts properly.

Well this is my first official letter, would like to have it answered. I love this book, I love TWD and I read Haunt for the first time the other day and ordered the second trade cuz it was so awesome. Thanks for getting me back into comics!

-Leo Nieves

I always imagined it was a like hearing someone talk with gravel in their mouth—like an effective version of Christopher Nolan's Batman. SNAP! (I'm about to get on a ton of sh\*t lists). Robert?

*I picture it being more just deep and strong, like a Clancy Brown or a Keith David type voice. Not monstrous or gravely. You dig?*

Your Majesty,

I just read Invincible # 90. Great Stuff. In the letter column, everyone was wondering if Mark was dead. Forget Mark! What about Dinosaurus?!?

He better NOT be dead. What a fabulous supporting character he has become. And he saved Mark's life this issue!

(By the way, I was just kidding about Mark. He is what makes this the best superhero comic book in the Universe!)

I'm glad to see Allen and Oliver going to visit Tech Jacket. I'm still hoping that Tech Jacket gets his own book. If not, he should at least be a member of the Guardians of the Globe. Speaking of which, I'm thrilled to see that they are getting their own book!

I'm also looking forward to seeing where you're going with Zandale. Mark better get back soon if he's going to keep hitting on Eve!

Make Mine Skybound!

-Keith Etheridge



There are plans with Tech Jacket, but none of them include being a regular guest in *Guarding the Globe*. Glad you love the guy, he makes everything fun.

---

Hey dudes,

Just read 90 and so far this story line is fricking awesome. Bulletproof as Invincible? Dinosaur at death's door? Invincible the last descendant of the ancient Viltrumite king and an enraged Thragg out to get him? Nerdgasm.

I know right!

Anyway, I wanted to write in response to some negative/confused emails about Atom Eve's new body type. First off, she is not unhealthy. She just isn't. Anyone who says she is clearly hasn't been paying any attention whatsoever. It wasn't so long ago (ok yes it was) that she was changing the atomic make up of her food to make it more healthy. She burns calories just by using her powers! Plus, she's a superhero. Superheroes don't get "unhealthy" in that way, especially when they're as powerful as Atom Eve.

Besides, these critics are missing the whole point of the issue. Sure it's about self image, and that being as thin as your average super-heroine is unhealthy, but it's also about artistic integrity, moving away from cliches in the superhero world, and well... truth. The idea that Mark would get back from the most trying experience in his life and find that his girlfriend was completely unchanged is absurd, and knowing Atom Eve, adding on those extra pounds was a damn good choice. I mean, look around. Marvel's Human Torch and Thor are both back alive along with dozens of other recently dead Marvel characters, and it just makes Marvel look stupid. We want comic books that make us care about characters, with story lines that don't insult our intelligence as readers, and a skinny, happy Atom Eve just make you the writers and us the readers look and feel dumb.

I mean, these are the reasons you make choices like William being gay, and most obviously Eve's abortion. I mean, I don't know if you guys noticed, but Mark and Eve were having sex.... a lot. Saying that Eve didn't get pregnant would have been an insult, and saying that Eve just had her baby and was happy about it would have been a slap in the face. Choices like these are why people read Invincible in the first place.

Anyway, just writing so you know that SOME PEOPLE still appreciate what you guys do so much better than everyone else.

Moses Green

Thank you for your opinions on the hotter-topic issues. We appreciate all opinions on the matter, and the back and forth is fine, so long as no one blames us for being controversial for controversy's sake.

---

Hi Penvincipals!

This is my first letter to a comic writer in my life. Yay! Please let it be published for issues #93 or #95 or... you decide, but I want to be there! Have some questions for you... I see these bullet numbered questions a lot for TWD, not so much for Invincible.

1) How does having fan mail in this format affect your work? Does it make you question certain decisions? Having people telling you what to do or not to do, affect you in any way? Does it keep you in check, recognize certain mistakes (duh...) or inflate your ego (duh...)?

Robert?

*I'm sure it does inflate my ego a little bit but I print all the negative mail to keep that in check. Wakka wakka. And then there's always Andrew Shaw. The letters really reassure me, basically. Most people who guess what's coming up are wrong, and that means I'm not being predictable, which is important. So yeah.... and I don't take the suggestions, because 99% of the*

*time I've already written things after the issues that are out that have rendered those suggestions moot. But again, I like the suggestions because it tells me what people are keying into and also it lets me know if I'm being predictable or not.*

2) At what point did you realize you were changing comics for like... ever? I've read many DC and Marvel comics, mainly the big guns, and I haven't ever found something so... I don't know, awesome? Especially TWD, omg the gore...

He knew from the get-go with Battle Pope :-)

*If you think I'm changing comics forever and my work is amazingly revolutionary you're just not reading enough comics... so shame on you!*

3) What are your main influences? Never mind, I probably already know the answer...

If you say Romero...

*Erik Larsen, Bob Fingerman, Frank Miller, Peter David, George Romero, David Michelinie, there's a bunch more...*

4) An abortion for Eve? Wow, that really is something I didn't expect from a comic. That truly is an issue of our times, today everybody seems to have an opinion on it. But to put it in a comic, with super-power folks, trying to save the world, and have such an emotional impact on the reader... wow! You kill babies in TWD and now a fetus...

This isn't a question so much as an exclamation...

Boo-ya!!

5) How is the psychological development of characters that important to you? I think it's huge, because both in TWD and Invincible, the characters are VERY vocal about how they feel, in any given circumstance. It makes for great dialogue. Did you make your characters so vocal about their emotions because there wasn't enough in other comics, especially in the ones you grew up reading?

RK?

*It's probably just because that's the stuff I find the most interesting... I don't know.*

6) Please, I know you like killing characters, don't kill these : Eve & Andrea (TWD). The others I don't mind O\_o... we good?

Robert?

*I can't promise anything.*

Thanks for such a great read, I'm loving it! Cheers! If I'm published (Pleeeeeeaaase), I'll be writing some more, I got so many other questions to ask and comments!!!

Yamneh

ed. note : That 9 year old kid with the ed. note was indeed totally cool!

We aim to be totally cool!

Yeah!

---

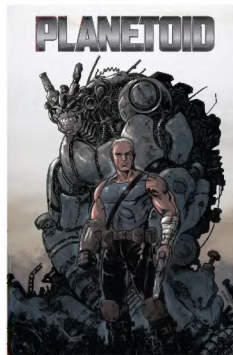
That's it for now! Come back in a month for more fighting, more intrigue, and more drama from the Flaxan dimension!

Best,  
Sina Grace

Worst,  
Robert Kirkman



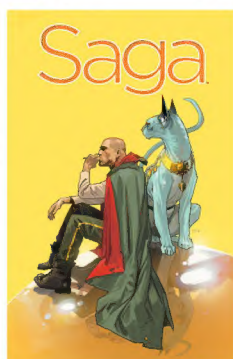
# DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE!



**PLANETOID #1**  
ON SALE NOW



**DARKNESS #104**  
ON SALE NOW



**SAGA #4**  
ON SALE NEXT WEEK



**INVINCIBLE #93**  
ON SALE JULY 2012





# Question of the Month

# "WHAT COMIC CHANGED YOUR PERSPECTIVE OF THE MEDIUM?"

"Swamp Thing. Specifically, Alan Moore's run. As a kid, I loved the Swamp Thing movie, and managed to convince my Mom to buy me the trade. I didn't realize just how different it was, both from the movie and from the comics I'd read. So, basically, having a whole bunch of Alan Moore poured into my head as a ten-year-old really changed what I thought comics were and what they could be. It may also have resulted in this beard."

Justin Jordan  
THE STRANGE TALENT OF LUTHER STORDE

"A faculty adviser at my university recommended 'Understanding Comics' by Scott McCloud, and that got me very into the potential of comics. After reading 'Understanding Comics' I discovered a lot of work and I think my biggest hero was Scott McCloud because of his pacing and storytelling. Paul Pope's 'Escape' was a big eye opener. I loved the essays where he wrote about comics. I really loved the giant size of the book and the storytelling. It was visually full of energy and movement."

Mark Andrew Smith  
GLASS TINE'S SCHOOL FOR WORLD CONQUERORS

"Arzach by Moebius. It was unlike anything else I had ever read. You can tell it's the work of a single creator just doing what he wants without reservation. The world created in those short stories is so lush and surreal. And the story-telling is so well done! It's really unique the way he arranged the panels on the page. Arzach is also a good example of the power of silent/wordless storytelling in comics. It really inspired me to explore more in my own work."

Ken Caring  
PLANETOID

"For me, it was HEAVY METAL magazine. Till then I have been reading mostly comics off the newsstand and when I got the first issue in my hand I was introduced to an adult world of genre storytelling by some of the greatest talents from Europe. It's probably when I first fell in love with the work of comics as well. The idea that comics could be so out there really opened up my thinking and inspired me in so many ways."

Honey Palmito  
QUEEN CHAIR

"I discovered The Dark Knight Returns #1 at just the right age. Everything about it – the writing, the art, the format – told me comics weren't the same anymore."

Tim Wier  
SCUMM

# JUNE 2012

For the latest Image Comics news and previews: (1) visit [www.imagecomics.com](http://www.imagecomics.com) (2) friend on Facebook (3) follow on Twitter (@imagecomics)

**the word**  
EXPERIENCE CREATIVITY

Image Comics and its logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc.



Steve Niles is the creator of the groundbreaking vampire comic series 30 Days of Night, as well as Criminal Macabre and Aleister Arcane. He is currently writing two upcoming Image Comics comics, Crime and Terror, drawn by Scott Morse, and Chin Music, drawn by Tony Harris. He lives in Los Angeles with his girlfriend Monica, two dogs, four cats, and Gil the tortoise.

**What are you working on right now?**

A stroke, I think. Actually today I'm working on Chin Music and Nosferatu Wars, two of my newest creator-owned books.

**What's the best part of your job?**

The freedom I have to write and create what I want. In comics these days being able to work without company mandates or having to check in with 11 other writers to finish a script is huge. I check myself often when I start to get stressed. Sure, it can get hard, but at the end of the day I get to write about vampires and robots. I'm very lucky.

**What's the worst part of your job?**

Getting paid. I finance a lot of the books I do, or work free for backend, so I do a lot of nail biting around the end of the month. As I create more and more projects I own and control, it's getting easier. The more I deal direct with fans/retailers the better.

**What's the weirdest part of your job?**

The recognition modern creators receive. I grew up not even knowing what most creators looked like. These days our faces are very public. And of course the only time I get recognized is when I'm at Home Depot in my sweats, ripped tee and bed-head.

**How did you first discover comics?**

I was a maybe 4 years old when I started. In the late 60's, and 70's you could walk down the street without tripping over a place selling comics. They were everywhere. My earliest memory of reading a comic was being in church, so small my feet didn't go over the seat, and I had a Creepy Magazine in my lap. I remember because my Mom was very upset about the cover and the fact that I was reading it in church.

**If you weren't working in comics, what would you be doing?**

I'm sure I'd be doing something in publishing, writing or playing music. I've spent my life making things. I don't really know any other way except working retail or being a short order chef – my previous jobs.

**What's the best thing a fan has ever said to you?**

"Your stuff got me back into comics." I hear that every so often and it really does make me feel good.

**Who is the biggest influence on your work?**

Richard Matheson for overall writing and Alan Moore for comics. Forget all the noise around Moore. He's a rock-solid writer. Bernie Wrightson made me want to do comics though.

**Own up to one of your guilty pleasures.**

I recently watched an Andy Griffith marathon...from my own collection. I have a weakness for some really silly old sitcoms.

**What is the single work of which you're most proud?**  
That's really hard. I was very proud of Mystery Society before it got the axe. I suppose my work with Cal McDonald because I've been at it so long and now there are dozens of comics, novels and maybe a movie. I never get tired of writing him. But really, Freaks of the Heartland is my fave because Greg Ruth made it ten times more beautiful than I ever imagined.

**What was the last comic book you bought?**

Hearst by Blair Butler and Kevin Mellon.

**If you could be someone else for a day, who would it be?**

That's easy, Rick Remender. I want to know what it feels like to walk around with such a sumptuous body.

**Pick three things you couldn't live without.**

My partner Monica Richards, my amazing friends... and my book collection (that includes comics).

**What's the strangest thing you have in your house?**

A giant African tortoise.

**What is one of your favorite places?**

Vasquez Rocks. Because I like pretending I'm hunting Gorn.

**What music are you listening to these days?**

Lots of old punk stuff and a lot of soundtracks. Wake up to Bad Brains, work to Russian Circles and Clint Mansell.

**What is your favorite film of all time?**

This week it's John Carpenter's *the THING*. It's just about the perfect horror film.

**Who is your best friend?**

Bernie Wrightson.

**What is the worst advice you've ever received?**

"Move to LA. The people are so nice."

**When was the last time you were truly frightened?**

I dunno. When was the last GOP debate?

**Name someone you really admire and explain why.**

I admire Mike Mignola a lot and I really look up to him. Aside from being an amazing natural talent he is the creators, creator. He does what he wants, never compromises his vision and produces great book after great book. He also has an amazing family. I want to be Mike when I grow up.

**What would you like to see happen in comics in the next 12 months?**

I'd like to see moves to expand the market and I think creator-owned is the key. The leotard boys have had a 70-year shot and they've done all they can. It is abundantly clear that, aside from the summer films, the general public doesn't care about reading superhero comics so it is up to creators doing indies to get out there and show the world what ELSE can be done with words and pictures.

**What the world needs now is...**

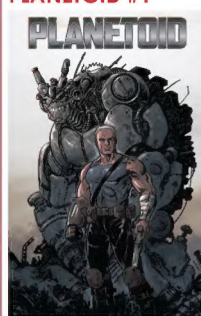
Love, love, love and new comics.

## SPAWN #220



TODD MCFARLANE RETURNS TO SPAWN AS WRITER AND COVER ARTIST! Celebrate SPAWN's 20th Anniversary with this special landmark release. Jim Downing has long been a man lost – confused by his missing past, haunted at every turn and manipulated by forces beyond his control. He languishes with his past finally coming into focus and a full understanding of the man he once was just out of reach. Jim embraces the full might of his horrific hell-born powers to piece together a mystery that has ties to the very core of the Spawn universe.

## PLANETOID #1



Silas, an ex-soldier turned space pirate, finds himself stranded on a mysterious planet in alien territory. As he explores the long-abandoned industrial ruins of the planet's surface he will have to fend off rogue mechanical creatures, rival cybernetic militaries, and a hostile alien military with a bounty on his head. Silas will have to rely on resourcefulness and bare-knuckled survival tactics in order to stay alive and ultimately unlock the secrets of a planet where survival is a luxury and escape an impossibility.

## CARBON GREY VOL. 2 #1



"DAUGHTERS OF STONE" Months have passed since the events of volume one. By order of the Queen an expedition force sets out in search of the real stone of Götterfaust. Anna hunts down the conspirators behind an assassination attempt on Her Majesty. What has become of the sisters in exile, Eva and Giselle?

## THE RED/RE[A]D DIARY FLIPBOOK HC



KRISTIANSEN's European Album is newly translated to English by TEDDY KRISTIANSEN and STEVEN T. SEAGLE. But in a unique flip-book format, the book is also "re-inked" with a completely different script devised by SEAGLE before he collaborated on the translation. Both versions – THE RED HARRY – a tale of art forgery and World War II and THE RED DIARY – a tale of identity theft and lost love – comprise this unique graphic novel from SEAGLE and KRISTIANSEN – the Eisner nominated/winning team behind the acclaimed Vertigo graphic novel *It's a Bird...*





"CREATOR-OWNED COMICS IS ABOUT CHOICE.  
I CAN CREATE A BOOK EXACTLY THE WAY I WANT  
AND END UP WITH SOMETHING I'M PROUD OF,  
AS A WRITER AND AS A READER."

**JIM ZUBKAVICH**



EXPERIENCE CREATIVITY

Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved.